

Message Text

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20

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PA-04

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Z 190904Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 9862

COMUSFORAZ FLASH

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA FLASH

UNCLAS LISBON 2530

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO, US

SUBJ: PRESS SPECULATION CONCERNING AZOARES
NEGOTIATIONS

COMUSFORAZ PASS PRESIDENT'S PARTY

OTTAWA FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. LISBON PRESS JUNE 19 SPECULATES THAT AZORES BASE AGREEMENT WILL FORM PART OF TALKS BETWEEN PRESIDENTS SPINOLA AND NIXON TODAY. DIARIO DE NOTICIAS STATES THAT QUESTION OF AZORES BASE IS OF PRESSING URGENCY IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE SIX MONTH PERIOD ESTABLISHED FOR NEGOTIATIONS IS ABOUT TO EXPIRE. NOTING THE PRONOUNCED POLITICAL CHANGE IN PORTUGAL, THE ARTICLE STATES THAT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS CERTAINLY CONSCIOUS OF THE STRATEGIC POSITION OF THE LAJES BASE AND APPEARS TO BE REVIEWING THE PROBLEM WITH NEW EYES. THE ARTICLE ADDS THAT ONE MIGHT BE EXCUSED FOR EMPHASIZING THE TRUMP VALUE WHICH PORTUGAL POSSESSES IN THE AZORES AND STATES THAT ONE MIGHT EASILY INFER THAT PORTUGAL'S PRESENT AUTHORITIES ARE CERTAINLY NOT DISPOSED TO CONCEDE FOR A HAND-
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SHAKE SUCH A VALUABLE RESOURCE NOR TO SUBJECT

PORTUGAL TO DISAGREEABLE EXTERNAL CONSEQUENCES IN
EXCHANGE FOR ALAUGHABLE PAYMENT.

2. ANOTHER ARTICLE CARRIES A COMMUNIQUE FROM THE
AZOREAN POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY DEMANDING THAT
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AZOREAN PEOPLE BE PRESENT IN
ANY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND THE U.S.
CONCERNING LAJES IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE INTERESTS
OF THE AZORES' PEOPLE ARE SAFEGUARDED AND THAT
EFFECTIVE AID FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AZORES
RESULTS FROM THOSE NEGOTIATIONS. SCOTT

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NNN

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